

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 3 and 5 have been amended. No new matter is introduced herein. Claims 3-5 are pending.

The oath has been objected to as being defective. Applicant respectfully notes that an executed oath was supplied to the USPTO on July 18, 2001, which the USPTO acknowledged receipt of on August 1, 2001. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the oath be withdrawn.

Claims 3-5 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ishii et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,051,848). It is respectfully submitted, however, that these claims are now patentable over the cited art for the reasons set forth below.

Claim 3, as amended, includes features neither disclosed nor suggested by the cited art, namely:

...means for storing the shuffled segments according to the shuffled sequence in a shuffled address sequence...

...means for addressing locations where the shuffled segments are stored and rearranging the shuffled address sequence to form a de-shuffled address sequence corresponding to a de-shuffled sequence...

...means for de-shuffling the shuffled sequence by reading out the stored shuffled segments according to the de-shuffled address sequence provided by the means for addressing to output the shuffled segments in the de-shuffled sequence...
(Emphasis Added)

These features are disclosed, for example, page 4, line 16 - page 5, line 9; and Figure 2.

Ishii et al. disclose a magnetic tape player, in Fig. 5, that rearranges (shuffles) data on recording and returns data to its original sequence (de-shuffles data) for normal or reverse reproduction (col. 6, line 50-65, col. 7, lines 17- 29 and col. 7, lines 60-62). Upon reproduction, input circuit 27 stores the shuffled data in main memory 33 (col. 7, lines 37-42). Output circuit 35 reads out the data of main memory 33 and de-shuffles the data in that frame (col. 7, lines 53-62). The data for one de-shuffled frame is then stored sequentially in memory 39 and read out by output circuit 40. Output circuit 40 specifies the address by sequentially increasing the address signal for a normal direction

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and by sequentially decreasing the address number for the reverse direction (col. 8, lines 15-24).

Ishii et al. do not disclose or suggest Applicant's claimed features of "... means for addressing locations where the shuffled segments are stored and rearranging the shuffled address sequence to form a de-shuffled address sequence corresponding to a de-shuffled sequence..." and "...means for de-shuffling the shuffled sequence by reading out the stored shuffled segments according to the de-shuffled address sequence provided by the means for addressing to output the shuffled segments in the de-shuffled sequence ..." (emphasis added). These features are neither disclosed nor suggest by Ishii et al. Thus, Ishii et al. do not include all of the features of amended claim 3. Accordingly, allowance of claim 3 is respectfully requested.

Claims 4 and 5 include all of the features of claim 3 from which they depend. Accordingly, claims 4 and 5 are also patentable over the cited art.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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DMG/ds/fp

Attachment: Copy of executed oath

Dated: March 15, 2006

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The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **18-0350** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.

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March 15, 2006

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